

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY
PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY
 (Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 42 288.ze.nb	FOR FURTHER ACTION	See Form PCT/IPEA/416
International application No. PCT/EP2004/012601	International filing date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 08.11.2004	Priority date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 10.12.2003
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC B21B1/32		
Applicant SMS DEMAG AKTIENGESELLSCHAFT		

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36. 2. This REPORT consists of a total of 4 sheets, including this cover sheet. 3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. <input type="checkbox"/> (<i>sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau</i>) a total of _____ sheets, as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions). <input type="checkbox"/> sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box. b. <input type="checkbox"/> (<i>sent to the International Bureau only</i>) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) _____, containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).
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<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I Basis of the report <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. II Priority <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI Certain documents cited <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand	Date of completion of this report
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.
PCT/EP2004/012601

Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the **language**, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:

 - international search (Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b))
 - publication of the international application (Rule 12.4)
 - international preliminary examination (Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3)
2. With regard to the **elements** of the international application, this report is based on (*replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report*):

the international application as originally filed/furnished
 the description:
 pages 1-4 _____ as originally filed/furnished
 pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
 pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
 the claims:
 nos. 1-5 _____ as originally filed/furnished
 nos.* _____ as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19
 nos.* _____ received by this Authority on _____
 nos.* _____ received by this Authority on _____
 the drawings:
 sheets 1/1 _____ as originally filed/furnished
 sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____
 sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____
 a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) – see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.
3. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

the description, pages _____
 the claims, nos. _____
 the drawings, sheets/figs _____
 the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
 any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____
4. This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

the description, pages _____
 the claims, nos. _____
 the drawings, sheets/figs _____
 the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
 any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____

* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY		International application No. PCT/EP2004/012601
Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement	
1. Statement		
Novelty (N)	Claims	1–5 YES
	Claims	_____ NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	1–5 YES
	Claims	_____ NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1–5 YES
	Claims	_____ NO
2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)		
1. This report refers to the following document:		
D1: US-A-2 105 736 (HUDSON EDWIN B), 18 January 1938 (1938-01-18)		
2. INDEPENDENT CLAIMS 1 AND 2		
2.1 The application meets the requirements of PCT Article 33(1) because the subject matter of claims 1 and 2 is novel (PCT Article 33(2)).		
Document D1 discloses a process and a device as defined in the preambles of claims 1 and 2 . Claims 1 and 2 differ from D1 by virtue of the features specified in their characterising parts, and are therefore novel.		
2.2 The application meets the requirements of PCT Article 33(1) because the subject matter of claims 1 and 2 involves an inventive step (PCT Article 33(3)).		
Document D1 is considered to be the closest prior art. The features referred to in point 2.1 above result in shorter coil follow-on times and fewer cut-off lengths.		

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY		International application No. PCT/EP2004/012601
Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement	
<p>The beginnings and ends of each strip are always rolled under optimum tension (see page 3, second paragraph). The technical problem addressed can be seen as that of how to modify the process and device known from D1 so as to allow even relatively small quantities of stock to be rolled efficiently and to high quality standards. The invention solves the problem in a way that is not obvious from D1.</p> <p>3. Claims 3 to 5 are dependent on claim 1 and therefore also meet the PCT requirements in respect of novelty and inventive step.</p> <p>4. There are no doubts regarding the industrial applicability of the subject matter of claims 1 to 5 (PCT Article 33(4)).</p>		